

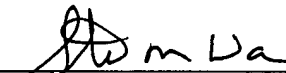
REMARKS

Formerly dependent claims 5-8, 10-11, 18-20, 22, 28-29, and 34-35 have been rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims. Applicants believe these claims are in condition for allowance. Claims 1-4, 9, 12-17, 21, 23-27, 30-33, and 36-41 have been cancelled without prejudice and applicants expressly reserve all rights to prosecute the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for consideration and allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of the above-captioned application, he is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 24, 2004



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